



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Nextel Communications, Inc.
800 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20006
202 296-8111 FAX 202 296-8211

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

November 13, 1995

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
Nov 13 '95
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

EX PARTE

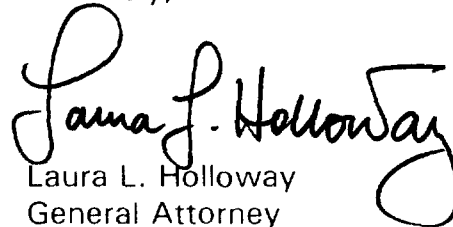
RE: GN Docket No. 94-33

Dear Mr. Caton:

On behalf of Nextel Communications, Inc. and pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules, this letter constitutes notice that the attached correspondence regarding the above-referenced docket has been sent to Mr. John Cimko, Chief of the Policy Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

An original and one copy of this letter and the attached correspondence have been filed with the Secretary pursuant to Section 1.1206. Should any questions arise in connection with this notification, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,


Laura L. Holloway
General Attorney

cc: Mr. John Cimko (w/o attachment)
Mr. Tim May (w/o attachment)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+1
List ABCDE



Nextel Communications, Inc.
800 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 1001
Washington, DC 20006
202 296-8111 FAX 202 296-8211

November 13, 1995

Mr. John Cimko, Chief
Policy Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
2025 M Street, N.W.
Room 5202
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
Nov 13 '95
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

RE: GN Docket No. 94-33;
Telecommunications Devices
For The Deaf

Dear Mr. Cimko:

This letter responds to a telephone inquiry by Mr. Tim May of your staff regarding Nextel Communications, Inc.'s ("Nextel") ability to implement Telephone Relay Services ("TRS") on its digital wide-area Specialized Mobile Radio ("SMR") systems. In particular, Mr. May queried whether Nextel has implemented the digital data capability necessary to provide Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf ("TDD"), *i.e.*, the text telephone equipment necessary to allow hearing-impaired users to translate the voice communication into data. As a continued proponent of TRS services on Commercial Mobile Radio Service ("CMRS") systems, Nextel submits this response.

Mr. May's inquiry was prompted by Nextel's Comments in the above-referenced proceeding, which were filed on June 27, 1994. In those Comments, Nextel supported the provision of TRS by all CMRS providers, but cautioned that some reclassified CMRS providers, like Nextel, may not have the technological capability to immediately provide services for the hearing-impaired. Nextel also submitted a January 13, 1994 letter to Gerald P. Vaughn which likewise emphasized the technological limitations associated with the provision of TRS on digital wireless telecommunications systems.

In particular, Nextel's Comments and the January 13 letter focused on two technical obstacles to the provision of TRS on its digital wide-area SMR system. First, TDDs, the text telephone equipment necessary to translate the voice communication into data, are not equipped to interface with GSM-based digital customer equipment. Thus, before they can be implemented on Nextel's wide-area SMR systems, they will

Mr. John Cimko
November 13, 1995
Page 2

have to be modified to connect to the Nextel handset via an RS-232 cable providing a direct digital input for the TDD into Nextel's digital system. At this time, Nextel is not aware that any such modifications have been made to TDD devices. We note that these considerations are likely to be present for TDD use on GSM-based Personal Communications Services systems as well.

The second hurdle Nextel discussed in both documents is the lack of any digital data capability on Nextel's wide-area SMR systems that would allow for the transmission of TDD-involved communications. In its Comments, Nextel stated that it would have these capabilities by sometime in 1995. Mr. May's telephone inquiry specifically sought an update on the implementation of Nextel's digital data technology.

Despite Nextel's original intentions of providing data services by 1995, unexpected challenges in the implementation of its digital voice services have taken precedence. Nextel's engineering and technical focus has been geared to optimizing its voice services on the digital system. At this time, Nextel has yet to equip its wide-area SMR systems with digital data capabilities. Nextel plans to begin implementing mobile data capabilities on a market-by-market basis beginning in the first quarter of 1996. A limited number of markets should be equipped with the data capability before the end of 1996. We are, of course, open to working with TDD manufacturers to modify their equipment to operate on Nextel's system.

I hope this information is responsive to your request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information. I will file a copy of this letter as an *ex parte* communications in GN Docket No. 94-33.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lawrence R. Krevor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lawrence R. Krevor
Director - Government Affairs

cc: Tim May